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Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly

Report of the Third Committee

Rapporteur: Ms. Oksana **Boiko** (Ukraine)

I. Introduction

1. At its 19th plenary meeting, on 20 September 2002, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its fifty-seventh session the item entitled "Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly" and to allocate it to the Third Committee.

2. The Third Committee considered the item at its 7th to 11th, 19th and 22nd meetings, on 3, 4, 7, 8, 14 and 17 October 2002. At its 7th to 11th meetings, the Committee held a general discussion on item 97 jointly with items 98 and 99. An account of the Committee's discussion is contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.3/57/SR.7-11, 19 and 22).

3. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly (A/57/115).

4. At the 7th meeting, on 3 October, the Director of the Division for Social Policy and Development of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs made an introductory statement (see A/C.3/57/SR.7).

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II. Consideration of draft resolution A/C.3/57/L.14 and Rev.1

5. At the 19th meeting, on 14 October, the representative of Chile, on behalf of Andorra, Argentina, Austria, Bangladesh, Belgium, Benin, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, the Congo, Costa Rica, Cuba, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Djibouti, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Finland, France, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea-Bissau, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Morocco, Myanmar, Namibia, the Netherlands, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, the Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Romania, the Russian Federation, San Marino, Senegal, South Africa, Spain, the Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Zambia and Zimbabwe, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly" (A/C.3/56/L.14).

6. In introducing the draft resolution, the representative of Chile orally revised it as follows:

(a) The third preambular paragraph, which read:

"*Recalling and reaffirming* the commitments made at major United Nations conferences, special sessions, summit conferences and their follow-up processes, and the principles expressed in relevant United Nations declarations"

was replaced by the following paragraph:

"*Also recalling and reaffirming* the commitments made at major United Nations conferences, special sessions, summit conferences and their follow-up processes, including, in this context, the recognition of the contributions of the outcomes of recent United Nations conferences and summits, such as the International Conference on Financing for Development, held in Monterrey, Mexico, from 18 to 22 March 2002, the special session of the General Assembly on children, held in New York from 8 to 19 May 2002 and the World Summit on Sustainable Development, held in Johannesburg, South Africa, from 26 August to 4 September 2002, and the principles expressed in relevant United Nations declarations";

(b) In operative paragraph 10, the words:

"inter alia, the need for an integrated and coordinated follow-up to the Millennium Summit and other major United Nations conferences, special sessions and summits, including the outcomes of the International Conference on Financing for Development, the Second World Assembly on Ageing and the World Summit on Sustainable Development, as well as the ongoing discussions regarding the rationalization of reports"

were replaced by the words:

"among other things, the need for an integrated and coordinated follow-up to all major United Nations conferences, special sessions and summits".

7. At the same meeting, Algeria, Antigua and Barbuda, Armenia, Belarus, Belize, Bulgaria, Burundi, Cambodia, Croatia, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Haiti, Kazakhstan, Liberia, Malawi, Qatar, the Republic of Korea, Saint Lucia, Sierra Leone, Slovenia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Uganda joined in sponsoring draft resolution A/C.3/57/L.14, as orally revised.

8. At its 22nd meeting, on 17 October, the Committee had before it the revised text of the draft resolution (A/C.3/57/L.14/Rev.1), which Australia, Canada, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Guyana, India, Indonesia, Jamaica, Latvia, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mongolia, Mozambique, New Zealand, Singapore, Slovakia and Viet Nam had joined in sponsoring.

9. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.3/57/L.14/Rev.1 without a vote (see para. 10).

III. Recommendation of the Third Committee

10. The Third Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly

The General Assembly,

Recalling the World Summit for Social Development, held in Copenhagen from 6 to 12 March 1995, and the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly, entitled "World Summit for Social Development and beyond: achieving social development for all in a globalizing world", held in Geneva from 26 June to 1 July 2000,

Reaffirming that the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development and the Programme of Action[1] and the further initiatives for social development adopted by the General Assembly at its twenty-fourth special session[2] constitute the basic framework for the promotion of social development for all at the national and international levels,

Also recalling and reaffirming the commitments made at major United Nations conferences, special sessions, summit conferences and their follow-up processes, including, in this context, the recognition of the contributions of the outcomes of recent United Nations conferences and summits, such as the International Conference on Financing for Development, held in Monterrey, Mexico, from 18 to 22 March 2002, the special session of the General Assembly on children, held in New York from 8 to 19 May 2002, and the World Summit on Sustainable Development, held in Johannesburg, South Africa, from 26 August to 4 September 2002, and the principles expressed in relevant United Nations declarations,

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[1] *Report of the World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen, 6-12 March 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.8), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

[2] Resolution S-24/2, annex.

Recalling the United Nations Millennium Declaration[3] and the development goals contained therein,

Welcoming the outcome of the Second World Assembly on Ageing, held in Madrid from 8 to 12 April 2002, and stressing the importance of implementation of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing,[4] which focuses on three priority directions: older persons and development, advancing health and well-being into old age, and ensuring enabling and supportive environments,

Recalling its previous resolutions on the implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly,

Bearing in mind the need for an integrated and coordinated follow-up to major United Nations conferences, special sessions and summits in the economic, social and related fields,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[5]

2. *Reaffirms* the commitments made by heads of State and Government at the World Summit for Social Development, contained in the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development and the Programme of Action,[1] which established a new consensus to place people at the centre of the concerns for sustainable development and pledged to eradicate poverty, promote full and productive employment and foster social integration so as to achieve stable, safe and just societies for all;

3. *Also reaffirms* the decisions on further action and initiatives to accelerate social development for all, adopted by the General Assembly at its twenty-fourth special session and contained in the further initiatives for social development;[2]

4. *Recognizes* that many of the goals and commitments contained in the outcomes of the World Summit for Social Development and the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly have been successfully incorporated in the outcomes of subsequent international conferences and summits, including those of the Millennium Assembly,[3] the International Conference on Financing for Development,[6] the Second World Assembly on Ageing[4] and the World Summit on Sustainable Development,[7] and that the integration of social development objectives in these many spheres demonstrates a continuing firm commitment to achieving the goals of the World Summit for Social Development;

5. *Calls* for the speedy implementation of the goals and commitments contained in the outcomes of the World Summit for Social Development and the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly;

6. *Recognizes* that, while action taken to implement the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences, special sessions and summits in the economic,

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[3] See resolution 55/2.

[4] A/CONF.197/9, chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

[5] A/57/115.

[6] *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18-22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[7] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August-4 September 2002* (A/CONF.199/20), chap. I, resolutions 1 and 2.

social and related fields held during the past ten years will further promote social development, strengthened and effective international and regional cooperation and assistance for development and progress towards increased participation, greater social justice and improved equity in societies will also be required;

7. *Reaffirms* the need for effective partnership and cooperation between Governments and the relevant actors of civil society, including non-governmental organizations and the private sector, in the implementation of and follow-up to the Copenhagen Declaration and the Programme of Action and the further initiatives for social development, and the need to ensure their involvement in the planning, elaboration, implementation and evaluation of social policies at the national level;

8. *Invites* the Secretary-General, the Economic and Social Council, the Commission for Social Development, the regional commissions, the relevant specialized agencies, funds and the programmes of the United Nations system and other relevant intergovernmental forums, within their respective mandates, to continue to integrate into their work programmes and give priority attention to the commitments and undertakings contained in the Copenhagen Declaration and the Programme of Action and in the further initiatives for social development, to continue to be actively involved in their follow-up and to monitor the achievement of those commitments and undertakings;

9. *Welcomes* the contribution of the Commission for Social Development in the follow-up to and the review of the further implementation of the commitments made in Copenhagen and the further initiatives agreed upon in Geneva, reaffirms that the Commission will continue to have the primary responsibility in this regard, and encourages Governments, the relevant specialized agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system and civil society to continue to support its work;

10. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session the item entitled "Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly", and requests the Secretary-General to submit a report on this question to the General Assembly at that session, taking into account, among other things, the need for an integrated and coordinated follow-up to all major United Nations conferences, special sessions and summits.